

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LISBON 03416 181721Z

46

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 OPIC-03 OMB-01 IO-10 ACDA-05

SAJ-01 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SSO-00 EB-07 AID-05

SCCT-01 /092 W

----- 084987

R 181627Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3128

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 3416

MADRID ALSO FOR AMB CARLUCCI

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS: MORE PRESSURES FROM THE LEFT

REFS: (A) LISBON 3393

SUMMARY: JUNE 17 RALLY BY FAR-LEFT CRTS IN SUPPORT OF NON-PARTY
REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT PASSED WITHOUT INCIDENT. CALLS BY
DEMONSTRATORS FOR GENERAL CARVALHO TO ADDRESS CROWD WENT UN-
ANSWERED; COPCON COMMANDER FULLY OCCUPIED AT INFANTRY UNIT ON
OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN WHERE HE AND ARMY CHIEF GENERAL FABIAO PRESIDED
OVER MEETING ATTENDED BY KEY COPCON OFFICERS IN LISBON AREA.
FELLOW-TRAVELING PORTUGUESE DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT (MDP/CDE) HAS
ECHOED COMMUNIST CALL FOR NEW POLITICAL STRUCTURE. ORGANIZATION
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LISBON 03416 181721Z

WOULD BE BASED UPON COMMITTEES FOR DEFENSE OF REVOLUTION (CDRS)

BUT INCLUDE ROLE FOR "REVOLUTIONARY" PARTIES. MEDIA COVERAGE OF CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY HAS BEEN INTERRUPTED BY JUNE 17 ONE-DAY BOYCOTT BY LEFT-LEANING NEWSMEN IN PROTEST AGAINST CRITICISM OF MEDIA BY SOCIALIST DELEGATE. BOTH REPUBLICA AND RADIO RENASCENSA CASES HAVE MOVED AGAIN TO CONFRONTATION STAGE. END SUMMARY.

1. CRTS DEMONSTRATE: CROWD OF ABOUT 1,500 TOOK PART IN JUNE 17 UNITARY ACTION RALLY SPONSORED BY FAR-LEFT REVOLUTIONARY COUNCILS OF WORKERS, SOLDIERS, AND SAILORS (CRTS). WELL-REHEARSED THEMES OF DEMONSTRATORS INCLUDED: DISSOLUTION OF DO-NOTHING CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY; FORMATION OF NON-PARTY REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT; IMMEDIATE INSTALLATION OF A DICTATORSHIP OF THE PROLETARIAT BASED UPON CRT STRUCTURE; AND ARMS TO PEOPLE TO DEFEND REVOLUTION. ORDERLY CROWD MOVED FROM PARQUE EDUARDO VII TO LEGISLATIVE PALACE WHERE THEY REMAINED FOR SEVERAL HOURS CALLING IN VAIN FOR COPCON COMMANDER GENERAL OTELO SARAIVA DE CARVALHO.

2. COPCON PONDERES: GENERAL CARVALHO, WAS BUSY ELSEWHERE. HE AND ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF FABIAO WERE PRESIDING OVER A HASTILY-CALLED MEETING AT QUELUZ INFANTRY REGIMENT (RIOQ) ON OUTSKIRTS OF CITY. MOST OF KEY OFFICERS IN COPCON OPERATIONAL COMMAND WERE ALSO PRESENT. SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION HAS NOT BEEN REVEALED. BUT HIGH ON AGENDA UNDOUBTEDLY WAS REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL (RC) RESPONSE TO TEN "RECOMMENDATIONS" DELIVERED TO RC MAY 27, BY COPCON COMMANDER.

3. MDP/CDE JOINS COMMUNIST CHORUS: THE FELLOW-TRAVELLING PORTUGUESE DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT (MDP/CDE) MOVED INTO LOCK-STEP WITH COMMUNIST PARTY (PCP) IN COMMUNIQUE ISSUED JUNE 17. THE "ME-TOO" STATEMENT POINTED TO NEED TO FIND "NEW POLITICAL STRUCTURES" TO ENSURE STABILITY AND ORDERLY PROGRESS OF REVOLUTION. THE STATEMENT ENDORSED COMMITTEES FOR DEFENSE OF REVOLUTION (CDRS) AS BASIS UPON WHICH TO BUILD SOCIALISM, BUT ADDED -- A LA PCP -- THERE SHOULD BE ROLE FOR THOSE PARTIES WHICH ARE TRU SUPPORTERS OF REVOLUTION.

4. ASSEMBLY FACES PRESS BOYCOTT: THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY, MEANWHILE FOUND ITSELF UNDER ATTACK FROM YET ANOTHER SOURCE. LEFT-LEANING NEWSMEN SEIZED UPON STATEMENTS CRITICAL OF MEDIA- COVERAGE OF ASSEMBLY MADE BY SOCIALIST DELEGATE MEDEIROS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LISBON 03416 181721Z

FERREIRA TO ABANDON ASSEMBLY PRESS GALLERY EN MASSE. NEWSMEN SUBSEQUENTLY ISSUED A FORMAL STATEMENT OF PROTEST AND REFUSED TO FILE STORIES ON DAY'S SESSION.

5. REPUBLICA AND RADIO RENASCENCA: REPUBLICA CASE HAS TAKEN NASTY TURN WITH OPENING OF REPUBLICA'S DOORS TODAY. WORKERS ARE INSIDE FACING UNRULY SOCIALIST DEMONSTRATION OUTSIDE. TROOPS HAVE HAD TO FIRE INTO AIR TO RESTORE ORDER AND TWO

ARMORED CARS ARE NOW PRESENT. RAUL REGO HAS ENTERED BUILDING WITH REPRESENTATIVE FROM PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE TO NEGOTIATE WITH WORKERS. CONSULATE OPORTO REPORTS THIS AFTERNOON (JUNE 18) THAT REPUBLICA OFFICES THERE HAVE BEEN OCCUPIED BY MILITARY POLICE.

6. DRAMATIC HIGH POINT MAY ALSO BE AT HAND IN COMPANION RADIO RENASCENCA (RR) CASE. FAR LEFT AND PCP SUPPORTERS OF RR WORKERS OPPOSING CHURCH HIERARCHY'S EFFORT TO REGAIN CONTROL OF STATION HAVE CALLED FOR DEMONSTRATION AT 7 P.M. TODAY, JUNE 18. ORIGINALLY DUE TO TAKE PLACE IN FRONT OF CARDINAL PATRIARCH'S EPISCOPAL PALACE, DEMONSTRATION'S ASSEMBLY POINT HAS BEEN MOVED TO NEARBY DOWNTOWN SQUARE. A COUNTER-DEMONSTRATION TO SUPPORT HIERARCHY, ORGANIZED BY AREA PARISH PRIESTS, HAS BEEN CALLED FOR SOME TIME AT PALACE. CARDINAL HAS NOT FORMALLY PROTESTED TO GOVERNMENT, BUT INFORMALLY HAS LET IT BE KNOWN THAT IT WOULD NOT BE WISE FOR GOVERNMENT TO ALLOW DEMONSTRATION BY "WORKERS" TO TAKE PLACE.

7. COMMENT: REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL IS MEETING TODAY JUNE 18. OTHER THAN PRO FORMA STATEMENT MADE BY AFM SPOKESMAN VASCO LOURENCO (SEE REFTTEL), RC POLITICAL COMMITTEE, WHICH HAD BEEN MEETING SINCE LAST FRIDAY, ISSUED NO PUBLIC STATEMENT. NOON TELEVISION NEWS REPORTED THAT RC WAS DISCUSSING POSSIBILITY OF HAVING "NON-PARTY" GOVERNMENT. WITH BASIC QUESTIONS REGARDING FUTURE COURSE OF REVOLUTION STILL UNRESOLVED, CONSENSUS APPROACH OF AFM WILL BE PUT TO SEVERE TEST WHEN ISSUES ARE PRESENTED TO RC.

8. FACT THAT VIRTUALLY NO HARD INFORMATION HAS LEAKED OUT OF RC POLITICAL COMMITTEES MEETINGS IS INDICATOR THAT ISSUES REMAIN UNDER DEBATE. EXTRAORDINARY LENGTH OF POLITICAL COMMITTEE MEETING SUGGESTS SERIOUSNESS OF THE PROBLEMS BEING DISCUSSED. CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 LISBON 03416 181721Z

OKUN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SITUATION, POLITICAL SUMMARIES, POLITICAL PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LISBON03416
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750212-0981
From: LISBON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750639/aaaabjed.tel
Line Count: 155
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 LISBON 3393
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 APR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <01 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS: MORE PRESSURES FROM THE LEFT
TAGS: PINT, PO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006